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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A Java run-time system comprises a stacked-based interpreter for executing a Java program which comprises Java bytecode instructions and Java class structures, a converter for mapping standard Java symbolic linking strings contained in a downloaded Java program onto linking identifiers, and an export table for storing linking identifiers generated by the converter to bind a reference in a bytecode instruction to be executed to a corresponding link target. This Java run-time system is particularly suitable for embedded microcontrollers on smart cards.